Application No. 09/554,414 Response to Office Action August 31, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A method of altering a <u>de</u>methylation activity of DNA demethylase <u>in a cell</u> comprising amino acids 150-411 of SEQ ID NO:2, the method comprising inhibiting DNA demethylase with an antagonist or inhibitor selected from the group consisting of a double stranded C^mG oligonucleotide, an anti-DNA demethylase antibody, an antisense oligonucleotide of DNA demethylase, <u>and</u> imidazole and derivatives of imidazole.

33. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said antagonist is a double stranded C^mG oligonucleotide that inhibits DNA demethylase at a Ki of 50nM.

34. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein said oligonucleotide is:

$$\left\{\begin{array}{ccc} C^{m}G & C^{m}G & C^{m}G & C^{m}G \\ C^{m}G & C^{m}G & C^{m}G & C^{m}G \end{array}\right\}_{n}$$

35-40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said antagonist is an anti-DNA demethylase antibody.

- 42. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said antagonist is an antisense oligonucleotide of DNA demethylase.
- 43. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said antagonist is imidazole.
- 44. (Canceled)